

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

U.S. PATENT APPLICATION NO. 10/726,994
FILING DATE 3 December 2003
INVENTORS Kedar R. Belhe et al.
ASSIGNEE St. Jude Medical Puerto Rico B.V.
ART UNIT 3731
EXAMINER Julian W. Woo
ATTORNEY'S DOCKET NO. 47563.0015
TITLE "Suture Based Vascular Closure Apparatus and Method Incorporating a Pre-Tied Knot"

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

To: Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

From: Scott C. Nielson
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Submitted herewith on Form PTO/SB/08 is a listing of documents in order to comply with Applicant's duty of disclosure pursuant to 37 CFR §1.56. All listed documents are requested to be considered by the Examiner and made of record in the present application and that an initialed copy of Form PTO/SB/08 be returned in accordance with MPEP §609.

The submission of any document or statement herewith, which is not a statutory bar, is not intended as an admission that such document constitutes prior art against the claims of the present application or that such document is considered material to patentability as defined in 37 CFR §1.56(b). Applicant does not waive any rights to take any action which would be appropriate to antedate or otherwise remove as a competent reference any document which is determined to be a *prima facie* art reference against the claims of the present application.

Applicant respectfully requests expeditious examination and a favorable action on the merits.

Respectfully submitted,

Date: 18 January 2007

/Scott C. Nielson/
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**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE
STATEMENT BY APPLICANT**

(use as many sheets as necessary)

Sheet 1 of 1

Complete if Known

Application Number	10/726,994
Filing Date	3 December 2003
First Named Inventor	Kedar R. Belhe
Art Unit	3731
Examiner Name	Julian W. Woo
Attorney Docket Number	47563.0015

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Document Number	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear
		Number-Kind Code ² (if known)			
	A1	US-6,059,800	05-09-2000	Hart et al.	
	A2	US-5,643,292	07-01-1997	Hart	
	A3	US-4,923,461	05-08-1990	Caspari et al.	
	A4	US-4,760,848	08-02-1988	Hasson	
	A5	US-4,641,652	02-10-1987	Hutterer et al.	
	A6	US-3,871,379	03-18-1975	Clarke	

Examiner
SignatureDate
Considered

*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant. ¹ Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). ² See Kind Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at www.uspto.gov or MPEP 901.04. ³ Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST 3). ⁴ For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. ⁵ Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST 16 if possible. ⁶ Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.97 and 1.98. The information required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application.

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